

CLAIMS:

1. A discharge lamp comprising
 - a closed discharge vessel (20) which is surrounded by a wall of transparent material,
 - and two electrodes (30) which are partly embedded in the wall and project into the interior of the discharge vessel (20),
 - 5 - wherein at least one electrode (30) is elongate in shape and has a head part (50) and a shaft part (40) made of different materials and/or having different diameters,
 - of which the shaft part (40) is enclosed over its entire length by the material forming the wall,
 - and the head part (50) consists of a first portion (50a), which is enclosed by the material
 - 10 forming the wall, and a second, remaining portion (50b) which projects into the interior of the discharge vessel (20),
 - the second portion (50b) being longer than the first portion (50a).
2. A discharge lamp as claimed in claim 1, wherein
 - 15 - the length (La) of the first portion (50a) of the head part (50) accounts for less than 25% of the total length of the head part (50).
3. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
 - the length (La) of the first portion (50a) of the head part (50) is less than 0.7 mm.
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4. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
 - the head part (50) and the shaft part (40) have substantially the same diameter.
5. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
 - 25 - the diameter of the head part (50) is 350 to 450 μm .
6. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
 - the diameter of the shaft part (40) is 150 to 400 μm .

7. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
- the material of the shaft part (40) comprises at least 60 to 85% by weight of tungsten, the remainder being made up by rhenium.

- 5 8. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
- the material of the head part (50) comprises at least 90% by weight of tungsten.

9. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
- the electrode material, and preferably also the material of the gas filling, is free from
- 10 thorium.

10. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
- the length of the head part (50) accounts for 15 to 50% of the total length of the electrode (30).

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11. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
- the length of the head part (50) is 1 to 3 mm.

12. A discharge lamp as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, wherein
- the length of the shaft part (40) is 3 to 7 mm.
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